

To Be a Disciple

Lesson 2: The Person who Calls Disciples Fulfills Seven Prophecies

Matthew 1:18-2:12

INTRODUCTION

A. Matthew 1:7-17: Note the dynamic (seismic) shift in Jesus genealogy.

1. From now on, Jesus' genealogy is traced through KINGS of JUDAH.
2. Jesus Messiah is THE royal descendant of King David in Old Testament.

B. **MATTHEW 1:17** 17 Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon [597 BC] , and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.

1. 14 days for the moon to rise to apex and fall?
2. Numerical value Hebrew name David [דָּוִד] totals 14?
3. 7 x 2 (7 is number of COMPLETION in Scripture)?
4. APPLICATION: Jesus COMPLETELY FILLS UP the hopes and dreams

C. THE BIRTH OF JESUS THE MESSIAH (1:18-25)

- 1.. Joseph is NOT the source of Jesus' humanity.
2. Breaking the 'chain link fence' of Original Sin
3. Hebrew name *Joshua* [יְהוֹשֻׁעַ] means *Yahweh saves*.
4. Greek name for Joshua is Ἰησοῦς (One who saves)
5. Jesus-Messiah fulfills seven Old Testament Prophecies (completion)

II. THE VISIT OF THE WISE MEN (Matthew 2:1-12)

A. MESSIANIC SIGN that was predicted in the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible).

1. *Wise men* - not kings, despite extravagant gifts - but *astrologers*, presumably from *Persia* or *Babylon* ... men who worked for a king.
2. Misleading: *We three kings of Orient Are*

B. Hebrew הַעֲלָמָה (*almāh*) means "marriageable young woman"

1. But *Septuagint* (Greek translation of Hebrew Old Testament) translates *almāh* as παρθένος (virgin maid).
 2. Wise Men knew that Messiah was referred to as *Star of Jacob* [Numbers 24:17].
 3. STAR was probably a conjunction of the planets Saturn and Jupiter in the Constellation of Pisces (the fish - piscatorial).
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the significance of the number [7] of prophecies that Jesus fulfills in Matthew?
2. What is the significance of the ANGEL's activity in Matthew 1:18-25?
3. What is the significance of the name JESUS according to Matthew 1:21?
4. Why is Joseph suspicious of Mary's faithfulness during their betrothal? According to Deuteronomy 22:16-21, what should happen to Mary if she is guilty of adultery? What was Joseph's solution and why?
5. What is the connection between Matthew 1:23 and Matthew 28:20? What is the similarity and why is this important?
6. What does Matthew stress that Jesus was born in Bethlehem?
7. Why did the Wise Men follow a STAR? What was the "star" they followed and why was that "star" so important?
8. Why is the coming of the Wise Men so important? What is the significance of their gifts?
9. What does Matthew mean when he says that ... *all this took place to fulfill what the LORD had spoken by the prophets?*
10. What is Matthew trying to tell us about God's involvement in the history of the world?
11. How can we show our response to what Matthew tells us about the Christ?

